GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6576
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2000
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH AND NEURO SCIENCES .
SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore has initiated a multi-institute study to understand the complex nature of man`s susceptibilities to schizophurenia, establishing a uniquely Indian base;

(b) if so, the details of the operations involved in the study;

(c) the time by which it is likely to take to complete the study and the estimated cost involved therein; and

(d) the estimated number of percentage of persons suffering from this disease and other diseases involving mental health in India and the World?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SH SHANMUGAM)

(a) to (c) National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore has initiated a multi-centre study titled `A molecular genetic study of schizophrenia and bipolar disorder` with support from the Department of Biotechnology. The study has been initiated to examine the genetic basis of behaviour. The total funding for a period of three years is about Rs. 105 lakhs. The subject for the study are mainly persons suffering from schizophrenia and their family members also are being recruited and assessed in detail. This study will provide valuable addition information on the complex interplay of genetic and environmental factors in the causation of schizophrenia. The study is likely to be completed in the next two years.

(d) The prevalence rate of schizophrenia is 2 to 4 per 1000 population. This prevalence rate is universal and there are no major differences in the prevalence rate between India and rest of the world.